(b) and (c) Questions do not arise.

Rajasthan Bill to control illegal activities

†*434. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to make any specific legislation to check illegal activities of anti-social persons like usurpers of property, black marketeers of wine;

(b) should the State Government not take any action to control such illegal activities;

(c) should District Magistrate not be empowered to maintain law and order in the district; and

(d) if the reasons for not giving assent to the Bill of Rajasthan formulated to control the illegal activities of such anti-social persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No such proposal is presently under consideration of the Union Government.

(b) and (c) In terms of List II (State List) of Schedule 7 to the Constitution of India, 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects and as such, the States are primarily responsible for checking such illegal activities.

(d) The President's assent to the Rajasthan Prevention of Anti-Social Activities Bill, 2006 was received on 25.2.2008 and the same was conveyed to the Government of Rajasthan on 28.2.2008.

Internal assessment report on naxalite situation

*435. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Naxal organizations are strengthening their base and their activities are growing in many States in our country, particularly in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has proposed to formulate any concrete plans to counter the activities of Naxalities in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether any internal assessment report has been prepared by Government on the Naxalite situation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) As per available information, the Sate-wise number of incidents of naxalite violence and casualties during the last three years are indicated in the enclosed

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

statement (*See* below). It would be seen, therefrom, that the overall level of naxalite violence has remained more or less at the same level, during this period, although the level of violence in different States has fluctuated. Uttar Pradesh has remained marginally affected, with less than 1% of the incidents and casualties in each of thes years. In 2006 and 2007, violence was largely concentrated in Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand, which together accounted for around 68% of the incidents in each of these two years.

(c) to (e) 'Police' and 'public order' being State subjects, the responsibility for maintenance of law and order, including dealing with naxalite activities, lies primarily in the domain of the concerned State Governments. However, the situation has been continuously and closely reviewed and assessed by the Central Government through detailed consultations with the State Governments, and necessary steps, as required, are taken on a continuous basis, including focused attention and action in respect of the most affected areas. The Central Government is also supplementing the efforts and resources of the State Governments in various ways. These include deployment of Central Paramilitary forces to assist the State Police, sanctioning of India Reserve battalions to augment the strength and capabilities of the State Police, modernization and upgradation of the State Police and Intelligence agencies through the Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces, re-imbursement of security-related expenditure, assistance in training of State Police, sharing of Intelligence, facilitating inter-State coordination and assistance in development works through a wide range of schemes of different Ministries.

Manufacture of gold jewellery by MMTC

†*436. SHRI BANWARI LAL KANCHHAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC) has decided to enter into gold jewellery manufacturing industry at a large scale, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shortage of Technical Staff at sub-stations in sub-divisional areas

*437. SHRI BHAGIRATHI MAJHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that in sub-divisional areas the work of many sub-stations has been completed;

(b) if so, whether these stations have not been operated/opened due to lack of adequate technical staff;

(c) if so, how many such stations are there in Orissa and details regarding them; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.